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DEPARTMENT FOR IO/RHS GAYATRI PATEL, DRL/MLGA LYNN SICADE,
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SUBJECT: HUNGARY SUPPORTIVE OF USG CANDIDACY FOR UN HUMAN
RIGHTS COUNCIL

REF: SECSTATE 31175

[1](#)1. PolOff delivered reftel talking points on April 7 to Krisztina Kovacs, Desk Officer in the Department of International Organizations and Human Rights at the GOH Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ms. Kovacs said the GOH welcomed the news that the United States is interested in assuming a position on the Council and said that Hungary would be supportive of the USG's candidacy. She said that Hungary believes the Council membership is currently skewed towards "non-like minded countries" and that the USG's membership would have a positive impact on promoting human rights issues.

[1](#)2. Ms. Kovacs said that the MFA recently received a note verbale from the Embassy of New Zealand saying that New Zealand will no longer vie for a seat on the Council in order to make way for USG membership. She said the Embassy of New Zealand also expressed to the MFA its support of the USG's candidacy.

[1](#)3. Ms. Kovacs also sought the USG's support of Hungary's candidacy for a Council seat, saying that membership on the Council will be especially important given Hungary's upcoming EU Presidency rotation in January 2011. Hungary, Russia, and Azerbaijan are competing for two open Council positions.

Levine